

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A packet transmission apparatus for downloading a program is provided. A packet processor reads a packet from a data buffer and a program tag extractor extracts information from a tag in the packet, which indicates a location where a program is stored. A downloader downloads an individual program from the location and stores the program in a program storage. A program switch controls a program executor to execute a preliminary program while the individual program is being downloaded. When the download is completed, the program switch controls the program executor to switch over to the individual program. The packet executor executes the individual program and controls the packet transmission.